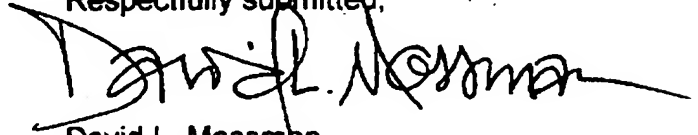


### REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 25 are pending in the application. Claims 3-5, 7, 9-12, 14-16, 18, and 22 are amended. Claims 23-24 are canceled. Claim 25 is new. These changes were made to remove multiple dependencies and to conform the claims to U.S. practice only, and to thus place the claims in better condition for consideration and allowance. New claim 25 includes the features of original claims 1, 2, and 7-9. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments presented above offer the claims in better condition for allowance. Consideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully reminded of his duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help advance the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Mossman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David L. Mossman  
Registration No. 29,570  
Attorney for Applicants  
Telephone No. 512/219-4026  
Facsimile No. 512/219-4036  
Madan, Mossman & Sriram, P.C.  
2603 Augusta, Suite 700  
Houston, TX 77057-5638